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DEPARTMENT OF STEEL & MINES

NOTIFICATION

The 23rd May, 2025

Sub.: Extension of validity period of Handibhanga Iron Ore block of Keonjhar & Sundargarh District allotted to Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd. (OMC) for exploration.

No.4771—SM-AE-ME/0012/2022/S&M.— Whereas, Handibhanga Iron Ore block of Keonjhar and Sundargarh District over a tentative area of 19.290 Sq. km was allotted in favour of the erstwhile Odisha Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd. [now merged with Odisha Mining Corporation Limited (OMC)] vide this Department Notification no. 3459, dated the 6th April, 2023 for carrying out exploration up to G2 level for a period of two years.

Whereas, during this Period, OMC has completed Geological mapping, grab sampling and borehole planning in this region. As the Forest Clearance proposal for this block are pending with different offices under the Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department.

Whereas, the Director (Exploration), OMC vide his letter no. 6211/OMC/Expl./2025 dated 25th April, 2025 has requested to extend the time period of exploration for a period of another two year for completion of exploration up to G2 level.

Now, therefore, after careful consideration, Government have been pleased to extend the time period of exploration of Handibhanga Iron Ore block of Keonjhar and Sundargarh District for further two year for completion of the exploration work upto G2 level by the OMC Ltd.

By Order of the Governor

SURENDRA KUMAR

Additional Chief Secretary to Government